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BISHOP MAHER RE-ELECTED USD BOARD CHAIRMAN, ERNEST HAHN NAMED CHAIR-ELECT

The Most Reverend Leo T. Maher, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese for San Diego and Imperial counties, was re-elected today (May 19) chairman of the University of San Diego Board of Trustees.

This will be Bishop Maher's final one-year term as board chair because he plans to retire in the summer of 1990.

As a result, Ernest Hahn was elected chair-elect of the USD Board of Trustees and will assume the chairmanship in September 1990.

Other board officers elected for academic year 1989-90 are:

- * Dan Derbes, president of Allied Signal International, Inc., was elected vice chair.
- * Msgr. I. Brent Eagen, chancellor of the diocese, was re-elected secretary.
- * Eugene Trepte, chairman and CEO Trepte Investment co., was re-elected treasurer.
- * USD Vice President for Financial Affairs Jack Boyce, was elected assistant treasurer.

* USD Controller Tom VanZant, elected assistant secretary.

* LaVerne Hanscom was elected assistant secretary.

Hahn's election marks the first time a layperson will be chairman of the private independent Catholic university's board, made up of 38 leaders from throughout the West. (see attached list.)

The internationally renown shopping center developer has been the board's vice chair since 1986 and a Trustee for the past seven years.

Bishop Maher said, "it has been my privilege to have had the role as chairman of the Board of Trustees and to have been instrumental in the miraculous growth and development of the University in the academic field and in its physical plant during the last 17 years.

"We'll continue to give guidance for the formation of its students and the Catholic character of the University, which safeguards rather than limits its academic activity.

"I am now getting a coadjutor in Ernie Hahn for my successor as chair of the Board of Trustees to take over as chairman when I retire. Like my welcome to the new Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego (Bishop Robert H. Brom), I extend a most cordial welcome to Ernie Hahn, an outstanding Catholic layman with outstanding leadership qualities."

Trustee George Pardee, who chairs the board committee that nominates board officers, said "we are pleased that

Bishop Maher will be able to give the University one more year of leadership. He has been chairman since the board was established in 1972, when the San Diego College for Women and the San Diego College for Men merged to become USD.

"Ernie Hahn has been among the most active, most dynamic of our Trustees, and is a natural choice to pick up where the bishop will leave off.

"We're confident that Ernie Hahn will lead this board with distinction into the 1990s, a new age for the University and private higher education in this community."

Pardee was referring to "Education for a New Age," USD's \$47.5 million capital campaign, in which Hahn, as a member of the board's Campaign Executive Committee, plays a key role.

USD President and Trustee Author E. Hughes said Hahn "is the perfect choice to chair the Board of Trustees. Ernie is a visionary and a catalyst of the highest caliber.

"He is also a true gentleman and one of the most generous people I know. We are most fortunate and deeply grateful that Ernie Hahn has given so much of himself to the University and now stands ready to give even more."

Hahn and the rest of the board commended the bishop for his 17 years of service to University.

Hahn said, "Bishop Maher can take great pride in the leadership he's provided to the University. He is very much a part of the University's success story."

Dr. Anita Figueredo, who has been a Trustee s since its establishment and was the board's vice chair for ten years, said, "Bishop Maher has been an excellent chairman, always contributing at meetings and always willing to do his share. "He's never pulled rank and really has the well-being of USD in his heart."

Hughes echoed the comments by Hahn and Figueredo, then added: "Bishop Maher, who has my respect and admiration, can be credited for many of the board's accomplishments."

In reaction to his election, Hahn said, "I am deeply honored that my peers have chosen me to help lead this fine university, an institution dedicated to the enrichment of the intellectual and cultural level of America's Finest City.

"I'm looking forward to chairing a distinguished group of proven leaders. People who truly are shaping the San Diego region. People who understand the importance of quality value-based higher education in the Catholic tradition."

The Most Rev. Robert H. Brom, recently named coadjutor bishop of the San Diego diocese, who is scheduled to succeed Bishop Maher upon his resignation, will automatically become a member of the USD board in 1990, under the University's charter.

In a statement released May 9, Hughes welcomed Bishop Brom and congratulated him on his appointment. "Because of his strong academic background, I am confident he will be a valuable asset to the University's board."



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